

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:	)	Group Art Unit:	1754
	)		
HACKL et al.	)	Examiner:	FIORITO, J.
	)		
Serial No.: 10/713,640	)	Confirmation No.:	1650
	)		
Filed: November 13, 2003	)	<u>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION</u>	
	)	<u>REQUIREMENT</u>	
Atty. File No.: 4764-32	)		
	)		
For: "METHOD FOR THIOSULFATE	)		
LEACHING OF PRECIOUS METAL-	)		
CONTAINING MATERIALS"	)		

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated January 23, 2007, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1-7 (Group I), drawn to a process of recovering precious metal, Claims 9-13 and 37 (Group II), drawn to a process for recovering precious metal, Claims 15-22 (Group III), drawn to a process for recovering a precious metal, Claims 24-28 (Group IV), drawn to a process for recovering a precious metal, and Claims 38-48 (Group V), drawn to a process for recovering a precious metal were distinct inventions. Applicants hereby elect to prosecute Claims 1-7 (Group I) in this patent application. However, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue Claims 9-13, 15-22, 24-28, and 37-48 in a subsequent divisional/continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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